	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	10/611,835	SCHEU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Tadesse Hailu	2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *6/18/07*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-5 and 7-22*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

       1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

       2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

       3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

       1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. This *Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance* is in response to the AMENDMENT submitted on June 18, 2007.

2. Claims 1-5, and 7-22 are allowed.

The current invention:

The current invention is a method, apparatus and system for accessing data objects from a storage medium includes rendering a combination of graphical structures. Each graphical structure depicts a storage hierarchy or logic, and can include a link or reference to stored data objects. The combination of graphical structures defines a number of graphical objects. Each graphical object is associated with a coordinate display and linking mechanism to access one or more data objects represented by the graphical object. Thus, a number of collections of data objects are represented graphically for quick access.

Szabo (US Pat. No. 5,966,126) (main reference):

Szabo relates to the field of graphic user interfaces for computer systems, and more particularly to graphic user interface systems having graphic objects representing data sets, in which a manipulation of the graphic object instructs the system to perform logical or set theory operations on the data represented by the graphic object.

Representative claim 1:

1. A method for providing access to stored data objects, the method comprising:

representing a first arrangement of data objects comprising a first set of documents as a first graphical structure in a graphical user interface (GUI;

concurrently representing a second arrangement of data objects comprising a second set of documents as a second graphical structure in the GUI;

combining the first and second graphical structures in the GUI defining a plurality of user-selectable graphical objects each providing access to one or more data objects associated with a corresponding portion of the combined first and second arrangements, the combined first and second graphical structures including at least one overlapping region defining one of the user-selectable objects providing access to the first and second arrangements of data objects and one or more of the first and second set of documents, wherein the first arrangement is based on a date or time, and the first graphical structure includes an area divided into a number of arc-sections, wherein each arc-section represents a duration of the date or time.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The examiner carefully reviewed the current claims and did not find a prior art that renders obvious nor anticipates the combination of claimed elements in light of the specification. Thus, all the pending claims are allowed. The primary reason for allowance is that while the prior art record, Szabo (US Pat. No. 5,966,126) discloses some of the claimed limitations, such as the cited *"representing"* step and *"concurrently representing a second arrangement of data objects"* as recited in representative claim 1, Szabo, however fails to recite or suggest each and every features of the remaining step, i.e., "*combining the first and second graphical structures in the GUI ... wherein the first arrangement is based on a date or time, and the first graphical structure includes an area divided into a*

number of arc-sections, wherein each arc-section represents a duration of the date or

time." as currently amended in the claim.. Since the rest of the claims substantially

recite said similar allowable feature as recited in the amended claim 1, all the pending

claims 1-5, and 7-22 are allowed over the prior art of records.

<div align="center">Conclusion</div>

3.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

patent application information retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

application may be obtained from either Private –PAIR or Public-PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private-PAIR only. For

more information about the PAIR system, please see pair-direct.uspto.gov web site.

Should you have questions regarding access to the PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:30 – 7:00 ET. If attempts

to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, John

Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048 Art Unit 2173.

Examiner Tadesse Hailu
Art Unit 2173 – Operator Interface 11/1/07

TADESSE HAILU
PRIMARY EXAMINER